

## Editorial

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# Eating out

Recently I attended a 'foreign' meeting. This meeting was held in the United States, in English—and, of course, I am an American. Still, the meeting was 'foreign' to me. This was because it dealt with a sector of the information industry that is very far removed from the library-centered, intermediary-dominated universe we deal with on a regular basis.

The 'new' sectors included satellite communications companies, software suppliers, telephone companies, networks, publishers other than sci/tech, videotex and videodisc activities ... all information services.

We are all aware that we are in a very large industry, but our specific dealings are with a relatively small segment, and we thus lose sight of the massive array of its other components.

I believe that we suffer by this parochial situation, and that journals such as *ISU* have a major role in widening our focus. This means that the content we present for your attention may seem equally 'foreign' at times. As with ethnic foods, it is important that we try new dishes from time to time. As we enter the fifth year of *ISU* we will attempt to provide a still more varied diet.

A.W. Elias